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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Chiaki Sasaoka

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EXAMINER

ZHANG, YUANDA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2828

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/23/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 03/05/09 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. In response to Applicant's argument of claim 1, the Applicant has argued that lower part of the leg portions of layer 69 in Figure 6 of Nidou et al is provided below a top portion of a layer 68 that is provided below the layer 69 and it does not meet the specific requirements set forth in claim 1. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. It appears that the Applicant's interpretation of claim 1 is different from the Examiner's interpretation. In figure 6, the adjacently-positioned upper layer 69 is stacked completely on top of the adjacently-positioned lower layer 68 in which the upper and lower portions of layer 69 are correspondingly above the upper and lower portions of 68. Since the term "entirely above" does not exclude this interpretation, the Examiner believes that the claimed limitations are met. In addition, the Examiner notes that the interpretation of claim 1 by the Applicant also raises contradiction to the disclosure in the application. As shown in figure 2, adjacently-positioned upper layer 510 on top of adjacently-positioned lower layer 507 is part of the laminated layers of the ridge structure and it's clearly shown that the lower portion of layer 510 is below the top portion of layer 507.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YUANDA ZHANG whose telephone number is

Art Unit: 2828

(571)270-1439. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Minsun Harvey can be reached on 571-272-1835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Yuanda Zhang/
Examiner, Art Unit 2828
03/18/09

/Minsun Harvey/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2828